

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claim 35 is amended to specify that the mesyl group may also be a tosyl group. This amendment is supported by the specification at page 17, third full paragraph.

Applicants submit that the amendment to claim 35 overcomes the objection to claim 69. Therefore, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection to claim 69.

Claims 35-41 and 69-74 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons that follow.

The Examiner assert that the selective deprotection of the compound of formula 6 is not enabled because there are no working examples. However, the present specification teaches that the deprotection of the compound of formula 6 is accomplished with reagents set forth at the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9. Applicant asserts that this disclosure enables one of skill in the art to practice the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

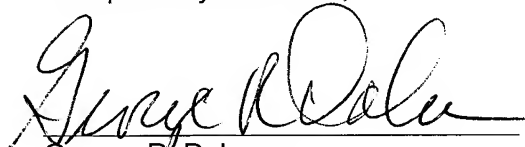
Claims 35-37, 39-41 and 69-74 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons that follow.

Step (c) involves splitting off the chiral group to obtain the carboxylic acid. The claim does not specify how this is accomplished because any means known to the skilled artisan is acceptable. One of skill in the art would readily understand the metes and bounds of the claim, including step (c). Therefore, the claim is definite and conforms to the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Patents Pharma
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7824

Respectfully submitted,


George R. Dohmann
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 33,593

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